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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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KANSAS CITY, KANSAS POLICE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES \$100,000 GRANT TO REDUCE CRIME AND IMPROVE QUALITY OF LIFE IN PUBLIC HOUSING AREAS

KANSAS CITY, Kan. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren and Kansas City, Kansas Police Chief Ronald Miller announced today that **the United States Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs has awarded the Kansas City, Kansas Police Department a \$100,000 grant to be used to reduce crime and improve the quality of life in Kansas City, Kansas public housing areas.**

This grant will provide funding to the Kansas City, Kansas Police Department in its efforts to investigate, prosecute, and prevent violent crime and drug offenses in public and federally-assisted low-income housing. The grant will be used primarily in the area South of Central Avenue and North of Steele Road in Kansas City, Kansas including the Argentine community.

The Kansas City, Kansas Police Department will use this grant to increase the presence of uniformed officers and detectives in these areas. The grant will pay for officers' overtime. The Kansas City, Kansas Police Department Community Policing Unit (COPS) will also work with existing community organizations and encourage the development of new community organizations in these neighborhoods. The COPS Unit has previously conducted numerous activities including neighborhood clean-ups, neighborhood watch meetings, bike patrols, landlord training, and neighborhoods crime prevention patrols.

"We will use this grant to improve the quality of life in our community by decreasing crime and increasing community involvement," Chief Ronald Miller said.

"A community working in partnership with law enforcement officers is a real defense against crime and this grant provides additional needed resources to assist in this partnership," said U.S. Attorney Eric Melgren.

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